

URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES

THE  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

OF THE  
Medical Officer  
of Health

T. D. HUNTER, M.A., B.Sc., M.D.

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF  
THE SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR 1950





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# LEES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## 1950-1951

*Chairman of the Council :*

COUNCILLOR F. WARD, J.P.

*Health Committee :*

Councillor J. Barker, *Chairman*

„ J. Gartside  
„ S. W. Thorley  
„ J. G. Sweatman  
„ F. Ward  
„ E. Taylor  
„ H. Wilkinson  
„ F. Rowland  
„ C. M. Hunter  
„ H. Slack  
„ J. Mannion  
„ C. Rawstron  
„ H. K. Dyson  
„ J. Allen  
„ S. Pearson

*Clerk of the Council :*

H. BOARDMAN

*Medical Officer of Health (part time) :*

T. D. HUNTER, M.A., B.Sc., M.D.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

G. OAKES, C.R.S.I.



# ANNUAL REPORT

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Lees*

Council Offices,  
Cross Street,  
Lees.

MR. CHAIRMAN LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1950. During the year there was a slight outbreak of Food Poisoning which was traced to the consumption of Meat Pies obtained in Oldham - none of the cases were of a serious nature.

Again there were no maternal deaths in the District during the year.

To the Members of the Council, all Officials and Staff, I tender my thanks for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*T. D. HUNTER, M.A., B.Sc., M.D.*

## **General Statistics.**

Area in acres .....	288
Population (census 1931) .....	4738
Registrar-General's estimated resident population mid-1950 .....	4247
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books.....	1494
Rateable Value .....	£20,274
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£75

## **Vital Statistics.**

The main vital statistics for the year, after correction for inward and outward transfers, as furnished by the Registrar-General are given in Table 1.

TABLE I.

	Total	M.	F.		
Live Births (legitimate) ...	55	..	36	..	19
" (illegitimate) ...	4	..	1	..	3
" Total .....	59	..	37	..	22
Still Births .....	1	..	0	..	1
Deaths .....	55	..	21	..	34
Deaths from Puerperal causes .....					
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—					
All Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....					17
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....					18
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....					0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....					7
Measles (all ages) .....					0
Whooping Cough (all ages) .....					0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....					0

## LEES

	Per 1,000 of estimated Population				per 1,000 Births		
	Live Birth Rate	Gross Death Rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	Maternal Mortality Rate Live Births	Live and Still Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year
Mean of 5 years, 1945-1949	19.1	14.5	0.39	1.71	nil	nil	33
Year—							
1949	21.4	12.1	0.24	2.14	nil	nil	22
1950	13.9	13.0	nil	1.67	nil	nil	17
Increase or decrease in 1950 on—							
5 years average, 1945-1949 ...	—5.2	—1.5	—0.39	0.00	nil	nil	—16
Previous year ...	—7.5	—0.9	+0.24	0.00	nil	nil	—5



## 2. - Causes of Death

	Male	Female
All causes .....	21	34
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	0	0
2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever .....	0	0
4 Whooping Cough .....	0	0
5 Diphtheria .....	0	0
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	0	0
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	0	0
8 Syphilitic diseases .....	0	0
9 Influenza .....	0	0
10 Measles .....	0	0
11 Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph. ....	0	1
12 Ac. inf. encceph. ....	0	0
13 Cancer of buc.cav. and oesoph (M) uterus (F)	2	3
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum .....	0	1
15 Cancer of breast .....	0	1
16 Cancer of all other sites .....	0	0
17 Diabetes .....	0	1
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions.....	1	6
19 Heart Disease ..	9	15
20 Other diseases of Circulatory system .....	3	4
21 Bronchitis .....	1	0
22 Pneumonia .....	2	0
23 Other Respiratory Diseases .....	0	0
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	0	0
25 Diarrhoea, (under 2 years) .....	0	0
26 Appendicitis .....	0	0
27 Other Digestive Diseases .....	1	2
28 Nephritis .....	1	0
29 Puerperal and post-abortive Sepsis .....	0	0
30 Other maternal causes .....	0	0
31 Premature birth .....	1	0
32 Con. mal. birth inj. infact dis. ....	0	0
33 Suicide .....	0	0
34 Road traffic accidents.....	0	0
35 Other violence causes .....	0	0
36 All other causes .....	0	1

### 3—Notifiable Diseases, (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1950 :—

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED											Deaths. Total	Hospital.	
	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.								age un- known	Total removed to Hospital		Deaths in Hospital	
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-					65-
Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	16	...	2	9	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Diphtheria including membranous croup.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever, excluding Paratyphoid.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paratyphoid Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, excluding German Measles .....	33	2	12	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough.....	20	...	9	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
AcutePneumonia, primary and influenzl .....	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection.....	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Acute poliomyelitis—paralytic .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
" " non-paralytic .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute encephalitis—infective .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " post infective.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery .....	7	...	2	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Malaria, contracted in this country .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria, contracted abroad .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning.....	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any others notifiable in district, e.g Chicken pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals .....	85	2	24	25	20	3	4	5	0	2	0	7	0	0

## TUBERCULOSIS

(1)—The notification of Tuberculosis is efficient in the district.

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...								
1—2 ...								
2—5 ...								
5—10 ...								
10—15 ...								
15—20 ...		1						
20—25 ...	1							
25—35 ...								
35—45 ...		1		1				
45—55 ...								
55—65 ...								
65—75 ...				1				
75 & upward								
Totals...	1	2	0	2	0		0	0
	3		2				0	

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES	Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
Number Notified						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

#### Disinfection after Infectious Diseases :

Number of houses disinfected during 1950 .....16

Disinfectant used—FORMALIN and SULPHUR DIOXIDE

#### DISINFESTATION

Council houses    Other houses

Number of houses found infested                      0                      5

Number of houses disinfested                          0                          5

#### Methods used.

1 house by private contractor using H.C.N. gas.

4 houses by local authority using Formaldehyde gas.

## **General Provision of Health Services for the District.**

Under the National Service Act 1946, Health Divisions were set up throughout the County Administrative Area, each Health Division being responsible for the following services:—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Health Visiting Service.
3. Domiciliary Midwifery Service.
4. Home Nursing Service.
5. Domestic Help Service.
6. Prevention of illness, care and after-care.
7. Vaccination and Immunisation.
8. Ambulance Service.
9. Health Centres and Health Education.
10. Infectious Diseases. Voluntary Committees.
11. Mental Health Services.

This District is within Health Division No. 14 the Office for which is at :—

“Tylon”

Middleton Road,

Chadderton,

Phone : MAln (Oldham) 6251/2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 17.

Number of applications made during the year 1950..... 0

Number of orders made ..... 0

## HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

1. TUBERCULOSIS. Sanatorium and Hospital accommodation is provided by the County Council.
2. MATERNITY CASES. Maternity Cases are admitted to Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham.
3. CHILDREN. Arrangements made with Oldham County Borough.
4. SMALL-POX. There is an agreement with the Chadderton Joint Hospital Board for the treatment of Smallpox.
5. FEVER. Oldham Corporation Westhulme Hospital.

## PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL NURSING.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. No provision for nursing is made.

MIDWIVES. One Midwife employed by the Lancashire County Council practises and resides within the District.

HOME AND DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME. Service provided by the Lancashire County Council.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The Lancashire County Council are now the responsible authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES are provided by arrangement with Oldham for (a) Infectious Cases, (b) Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

A School for Mothers and an Ante-natal Clinic is provided in the District by the Lancashire County Council at Princess Street School, on Wednesdays from 2 to 3 p.m.

## LABORATORY WORK

Arrangements made with the Pathological Laboratories at Oldham Royal Infirmary and Monsall Hospital Manchester.

## Sanitary Administration

### WATER SUPPLY

There is an efficient supply of water of good quality provided from the Oldham Corporation Waterworks for the whole district.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination:

Filtration and Chlorination takes place at the source and tests are carried out by the Oldham County Borough.

No cases of lead contamination have been notified.

During the year 2 new houses privately built were supplied with water.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS

The River Medlock which flows along the Western boundary of the District, receives the sewage effluent from the Sewage Works at Crossbank. Two other streams converge on the Eastern boundary and join the River Medlock at the South West part of the District at Holts.

### SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewerage of the greater part of the district is conveyed to the sewers of the Oldham County Borough—the flow being checked by Lea Recorders—and is treated at their Outfall works. The remainder is treated at our own Sewage works, by the method of precipitation, continuous filters, percolating filters and humus tanks, prior to discharge of effluent in the River Medlock.

Technical details are being prepared for the elimination of the Sewage Works by connecting the Sewage scheme for the North end of the District to the Sewage scheme of Oldham.

All drains are examined before being covered in, and smoke or water tests applied where applicable.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Privy Middens .....	0
Pail Closets .....	0
Dry Ash Pits .....	0
Movable Ashbins .....	1464
Trough Closets .....	0
Waste Water Closets .....	78
Fresh Water Closets .....	1455
Number of houses on water carriage system .....	1494

## Conversions during 1948

Number of Trough closets to fresh W.C's. ....	0
„ Waste „ „ „ .....	3
Number of houses at which movable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles .....	0

## SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE

This is carried out satisfactorily by the Sanitary authority by weekly collection and a salvage scheme is operated. Refuse is collected weekly by motor vehicle and disposed of by partially controlled tipping at the Council tip at Tumbling Bank. Approximately 1240 tons of refuse were removed.

Excrement is disposed of on the water carriage system,

## **Sanitary Inspections during 1950 including Houses**

During the year 592 premises were visited of which 271 were dwelling houses and 321 various other premises.

In the course of these inspections 196 defects or nuisances were found and 192 were abated.

To secure the abatement of these defects and nuisances 107 informal and no formal notices were served upon the owners or agents in addition to personal interviews by the Sanitary Inspector.

## SCHOOLS

There are four day schools in the District. The sanitary condition of the W.C. and lavatory accommodation at the Schools within the District is fair, some of the accommodation is obsolete and requires attention. All the schools are supplied with water from the district mains.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action was taken with regard to smoke abatement.

## FACTORIES

Administration of the Factories Act 1937. Inspection for the purposes of provisions as to health including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector. New sanitary annexes were completed at three factories.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mech. power	24	50		
without mechanical power	3	14		
Other premises under the Act	1	7		
TOTAL ...	28	61	—	—

2. Defects found.

Particulars	Number of defects			No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remed'd	Rep. to H.M. Ins.	
Want of cleanliness .....	1	1		
Overcrowding .....				
Unreasonable temperature.....				
Inadequate ventilation.....				
Ineffective drainage of floors...				
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) insufficient	1			
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1		
(c) not separate for sexes				
Other offences against the Act				
Totals	3	2	—	—



RODENT CONTROL. On the 1st April, 1950, the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, came operative and since that date the following data applies.

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

## 1. Prevalence of Rats and Mice.

Type of Property	Total	Notified by Occupier	Otherwise	Recorded	Rats Maj.	Rats Minor	Mice only
L.A. Property ...	7	3		3	2	1	
Dwelling-Houses ...	1380	6	5	11		7	4
Business Premises ...	286	3		3		3	
Agricultural Property ...	13						
Total ...	1686	12	5	17	2	11	4

## 2. Measures of control by Local Authority

Type of Property	Number Inspected	No. of Inspections	Number of Notices served Sect. 4	Number of Treatments carried out				Block Treatments of Properties in different Occupancies under Sect. 6(1) or by Informal arrangement			
				By arrangement with Owner		under Sect. 5(1)		No. of Blocks	Surface No. of Separate Occupancies	Assocd. Sewers	No. of Manholes treated
				Rat	Mice only	Rat	Mice only				
L.A. Property ...	3	57		4							
Dwelling-Houses ...	17	38		7	4						
Business Premises ...	8	12		3							
Agricultural Property ...											
Total ...	28	107		14	4						

In addition two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the district involving the baiting and poisoning of approximately 181 man holes were carried out with much success.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### MILK SUPPLY

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

#### The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949

Number of registered distributors from :—

a. Own dairies in the district .....	14
b. Dairy farms in the district .....	3
c. Premises outside the district .....	7

#### The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949

Number of dealers licences (including supplementary) issued by the Local Authority during 1950 in respect of :—

“Tuberculin Tested” Milk:

i. Bottling... 0	ii. Distribution ... 0
------------------	------------------------

#### The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of licenses issued in respect of “Heat-treated Milk”

Retail Distributors: (a) Pasteurised... 0 (b) Sterilised... 0

Action taken by Local Authority in relation to :—

##### a. Raw Milk,

i. Tuberculosis—biological tests			
	No. of samples...	No. positive...	No. negative...
ii. Bacteriological examinations			
	No. of samples ...	No. satisfactory...	No. unsatisfactory...
iii. Sediment tests			
	No. of samples ...	No. satisfactory...	No. unsatisfactory...

##### b. “Heat-treated Milk”

i. “Phosphatase” test			
	No. of samples ...	No. satisfactory...	No. unsatisfactory...
ii. Turbidity test			
	No. of samples ...	No. satisfactory...	No. unsatisfactory ..
iii. Methylene Blue reduction test			
	No. of samples ...	No. satisfactory...	No. unsatisfactory...
iv. Tuberculosis			
	No. of samples.....	No. positive.....	No. negative.....

Number of notifications of tuberculous milk forwarded to Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Results of Ministry investigations during the year arising from notifications by the Local Authority

No. of Veterinary inspections.....

No. of cases where animals siezed under Tuberculosis Order 1938 ...

No. of animals siezed .....

No. of cases reported negative, animals sold prior to investigation...

No. of cases reported negative—no animals siezed .....

## MEAT SUPPLY

Slaughtering is not carried out in the district at the present time owing to the centralisation of Slaughter houses. Slaughtering for the district being done in Oldham.

## FOOD PREMISES are inspected regularly.

Food inspected and condemned being unfit for human consumption during the year was :

24 tins of various foods; 7 jars of Salad Cream; 7 jars of Pickles; 176 lbs. of Meat: 19½ lbs. of Gammon: 9½ lbs. of Bacon.

## FOOD POISONING

There was one outbreak of food poisoning during the year. 2 cases being reported in the District. Cause traced to consumption of meat pies.

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

These are administered by the Police.

## Housing.

### STATISTICS

Number of new houses erected during the year :

	Prefabricated Houses		Traditional Permanent Houses
	Temporary	Permanent	
1. By the Local Authority.....	0	0	0
2. By other Local Authorities .....	0	0	0
3. By other Bodies or Persons .....	0	0	2

## Unfit Dwelling Houses

### 1—Inspection

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..... 368  
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... 728
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ..... 0  
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... 0
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..... 0
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....107

## **2—Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notices**

- (1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..... 154

## **3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year**

### **A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936 :**

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
  - (a) By owners ..... 0
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... 0

### **B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :**

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
  - (a) By owners ..... 0
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..... 0

### **C. Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :**

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... 0

### **D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :**

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..... 0
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... 0

**E. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding :**

(1)	(a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	87
	(b)	Number of families dwelling therein .....	149
	(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein .....	635
(2)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	3
(3)	(a)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	4
	(b)	Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	20

**F. Housing Act 1949 :**

(a)	(i)	Number of schemes submitted :	
		(a) by private individuals .....	0
		(b) by Local Authority .....	0
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses affected .....	0
(b)	(i)	Number of schemes approved :	
		(a) of private individuals .....	0
		(b) of Local Authority .....	0
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses affected .....	0
		Number of additional separate dwellings provided...	0
(c)		Any other action taken .....	0





